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*Highways and byways of Florida.* By Clifton Johnson. (New York: Macmillan company, 1918. 264 p. \$2.00)

A great deal has been said about "seeing America first," and Clifton Johnson has done a great deal in his "American highways and byways" series to make this pastime most interesting. His latest contribution to the tourists' library is *Highways and byways of Florida*. The book is made attractive by beautiful photographs, the print is comfortably large, and the style is interesting; in short, it is one of those books that we say just read themselves.

The author first gives an account of the settlement of Florida, making the early heroes, Ponce de Leon, Fernando de Soto, Ribaut, and Menendez, seem very real. He recreates before our eyes the treacherous savages, the cruel Spaniards, and the fanatical French so realistically as promptly to raise a desire to visit this land of mystery and legend and to witness the remains of the civilization which was established with such great difficulty in the beautiful "land of flowers."

San Marco's fortress, with its mysterious dungeons, St. Augustine's ancient landmarks, the picturesque natural charms of the St. Johns and the Ocklawaha river, and of the forest and swamps appeal to historian and nature lover alike, while for those seeking pleasure of a different kind the wonderful winter resorts of the state are described. Accurate information is also given in regard to the climate, products and industries of the state. No part of the state, apparently, is without interest, and anyone contemplating a trip to Florida will find this book not only entertaining, but instructive as well. To the reader who is denied the privilege of an actual visit the author furnishes a pleasant substitute for such a trip.

ESTHER M. DOLE

*The truth about lynching and the negro in the south.* In which the author pleads that the south be made safe for the white race. By Winfield H. Collins, A. M., Ph.D. (New York: Neale publishing company, 1918. 163 p. \$1.25 net)

Pessimistic rather than constructive is the tone of this little monograph. In the first chapter the author shows that there was relatively little lynching anywhere in the country prior to 1831, and that little was not confined to the south. From 1831 on, the lynchings increased, largely, the author believes, because of the antislavery movement. He holds that the abolitionist fanatics were more responsible for the crimes than the southern whites. During the civil war, Mr. Collins finds but two instances of negroes lynched in the south. With the coming of the carpetbag era, lynchings multiplied in frequency, spread over a wider area, and were prompted by a greater variety of pretexts. This is